

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 11687 121756Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00
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R 121744Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1778
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 11687

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECE, CSCE, EEC
SUBJ: EC COMMISSION QUERY ABOUT U.S. POSITION ON
BREZHNEV ENERGY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 11053; (B) BONN 14650 NOTAL

1. DURING COURSE OF A DISCUSSION OF OTHER MATTERS
SEPTEMBER 9, LOUIS KAWAN, EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL
RESPONSIBLE FOR EC RELATIONS WITH STATE-TRADING
COUNTRIES AND COMMISSION'S SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE AT
BELGRADE CSCE CONFERENCE, REFERRED TO FRG'S PRESENT
ATTEMPT TO GET THE EC-NINE TO REVERSE THEIR EARLIER
NEGATIVE REACTION TO BREZHNEV'S ENERGY CONFERENCE
PROPOSAL (REFTELS) AND SAID COMMISSION NEEDS TO KNOW
HOW U.S. VIEWS THAT PROPOSAL. HE SAID THAT IN REOPENING
THE ISSUE, THE GERMANS ARE TELLING EC PARTNERS THAT THE
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FRG DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH PRESIDENT CARTER, WHO
"SHOWED SOME INTEREST." ACCORDING TO KAWAN, NOW THAT
THE FRG HAS REACTIVATED COMMUNITY MACHINERY ON THE
SUBJECT, THE COMMISSION, WHICH EARLIER RECOMMENDED
FLAT REJECTION OF THE ENERGY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL ON THE
GROUNDS THAT IT HELD NO SUBSTANTIVE INTEREST FOR
WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, HAS BEEN ASKED TO TAKE A

NEW LOOK PREPARATORY TO PROBABLE FURTHER EC COUNCIL DISCUSSION SEPTEMBER 20.

2. MISSION OFFICER SAID WE HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED OF ANY CHANGE IN WASHINGTON'S EARLIER VIEWS ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT WE DID NOT KNOW THE TENOR OF ANY DISCUSSIONS THE USG MIGHT HAVE HAD WITH THE FRG. HOWEVER, IN RESPONSE TO KAWAN'S POINTED INQUIRY, MISSION OFFICER AGREED TO TRY TO ASCERTAIN USG'S CURRENT VIEWS.

3. KAWAN, LIKE OTHER COMMISSION OFFICIALS WE TALKED WITH EARLIER (REF A) BELIEVES SCHMIDT WANTS CONTINGENT FAVORABLE EC RESPONSE AS CARD IN HIS HAND FOR BARGAINING WITH BREZHNEV IN THEIR BILATERAL TALKS AND AT BELGRADE. HE SPECULATED THAT IN THE END THE NINE WILL AGREE TO A CONTINGENT POSITION WHICH MIGHT, ASSUMING THE SOVIETS PRESS THE ISSUE, HAVE THE COMMUNITY ACCEPT THE IDEA OF A CONFERENCE IN PRINCIPLE, SUBJECT TO FURTHER STUDY.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE SOONEST U.S. VIEWS ON ENERGY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL WHICH WE CAN TRANSMIT TO KAWAN.HINTON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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